ABSTRACT

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In addition to a nonvolatile recording area, a host interface, a controller and an update notification part are provided with a recording medium. The controller reads and writes data from and to the recording area, and sends the data of the recording area and update information to a data processing apparatus via the host interface part. In particular, the present invention is characterized in that updated information of the update notification part is updated immediately before data of the recording area is updated. The value of the update notification part can be referred to from the data processing apparatus but cannot be updated thereby. The data processing apparatus holds update information of the update notification part, whereby it can determine whether or not data stored in the recording area has been updated by another data processing apparatus. In this way, it becomes possible to determine the validity of the cache information and also determine that of index files.